



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

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The next **meeting** is at the

Simi Senior Center,

3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.

Thursday November 13, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

The next **Pizza** Night is at

Toppers Pizza, 2408 Erringer Rd, Simi Valley

Thursday November 6 at 6:00 PM

Move the Sunday night net - **YES** to **447.640 UHF** repeater - **PL** is **131.8 Hz**

What are you working on? Send us a picture and a few words.



November 2025

NO meetings in December - I am just going to eat sugar cookies and drink chocolate milk.



©DESIGNALINK

Jim and Lea Veronica will be graciously hosting the annual christmas party.

The event will be on Saturday, December 6th, starting at 5:30pm.

Lea requested a small group of us to come over around 11am that same day.

Please coordinate with Lea about things to bring at fun4all8@earthlink.net or 818 389-3453



November 2025

The November meeting will be a discussion of digital modes such as packet radio, winlink, APRS, FLDigi, and Vara FM.

But really, this is just me working on getting a Tigertronics Signalink working.

Care to bring your portable / mobile digital box to the meeting?

The January meeting will be a SWAP net. Bring your stuff to the meeting, take somebody else's home.



November 2025

A selection of NETS

Monday	Condor Connection (Plays Newsline)	7:00 PM	Frazier Mountain 224.720-1.6 MHz PL156.7
Tuesday	County ACS HF net	6:30 PM	Summer 7.242 +/- Winter 3.987 +/-
	ACS Area 1 - Simi Simplex net	6:45 PM	145.510 MHz Simplex
	ACS Area 1 - Simi Repeater net	7:00 PM	Simi Repeater 146.805 -0.6 MHz PL 100.0
	ATN-CA Net	7:30 PM	https://www.atn-tv.com
	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
Wednesday	Channel Islands chapter 10-10 International	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	28.34 MHz
	Mesh VOIP Net* Voice / video / data	8:00 PM	2.4/5.8 GHz Mesh
Thursday	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
Friday			
Saturday	SSARC SSB HF Net	8:30 AM	7.240 (+ or - QRM/N) 40 meter
	CW-QRP	9:00 AM	7.032 MHz
	Quad Squad net	1:00 PM	21.365 MHz
Sunday	The Newbie net	7:00 PM	Bozo Repeater 147.885 –0.6 MHz PL 127.3
	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
	SSARC 2 Meter Net**	8:30 PM	447.640 UHF repeater - PL is 131.8 Hz

Additional listings of **MORE** local nets can be found on the CVARC web site at: <http://www.cvarc.org>

* For more information, see <http://www.pvarc.club/mesh/mesh-applications/>

Our Sunday night control 8:30 on 447.640 UHF repeater - PL is 131.8 Hz:

Nov 2 Matt N3AR /	Nov 9 Ron K6RIN /	Nov 16 Kerwyn N6YHX
Nov 23 Matt KN6SEC /	Nov 30 Brian KM6MIN	

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ACS/ARES Corner

Frank Valdez KI6OQ is the Area 1 Emergency Coordinator

We are always looking for ACS members that would like to become Net Controllers. You will receive hands-on training at the Simi Valley PD (where we normally conduct the Weekly Net). It is both fun and at times challenging. You will gain valuable experience in running a controlled Net as well as becoming more than just familiar with the equipment in the Radio Room at the PD. If you would like to volunteer for this, just message Frank Valdez at frankki6oq@gmail.com.



If anyone is interested in how to set up your own packet station, RMS Winlink station, or a Mesh Node, contact Frank, he will point you in the right direction.

The **Area 1** (Simi Valley) net occurs **Tuesdays**. Generally it is just a brief check in, but usually some news about upcoming events is passed on. **Stop by and say Hi**. You do not have to do anything other than check in to test out your simplex or repeater connection.

The Tuesday **HF net** during summer months is on 7.242 +/- at **6:30 PM**.

During the winter, it is back to 3.987 lower side band.

The Tuesday **simplex net** is on 145.510 at **6:45 PM**.

The Tuesday **repeater net** is on the 146.805 (-0.6 MHz, PL 100) repeater at **7:00 PM**.

NOTE: Please be advised that we hold the Tuesday **countywide** net at 19:30 (7:30PM) on the Sulphur Mountain WD6EBY repeater 145.200, minus 600 KHz offset, CTCSS of 127.3. Until further notice, this will be our standard frequency for countywide communications.

Visit vccomm.org for more updates.

For the Tuesday night nets:

4-Nov-25	Dante	W6JCQ
11-Nov-25	Frank	KI6OQ ACS
18-Nov-25	Lisa	KK6AKR
25-Nov-25	Ron	K6RIN

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Member Updates

Go Box Extra Stuff by Eric KE6MLf



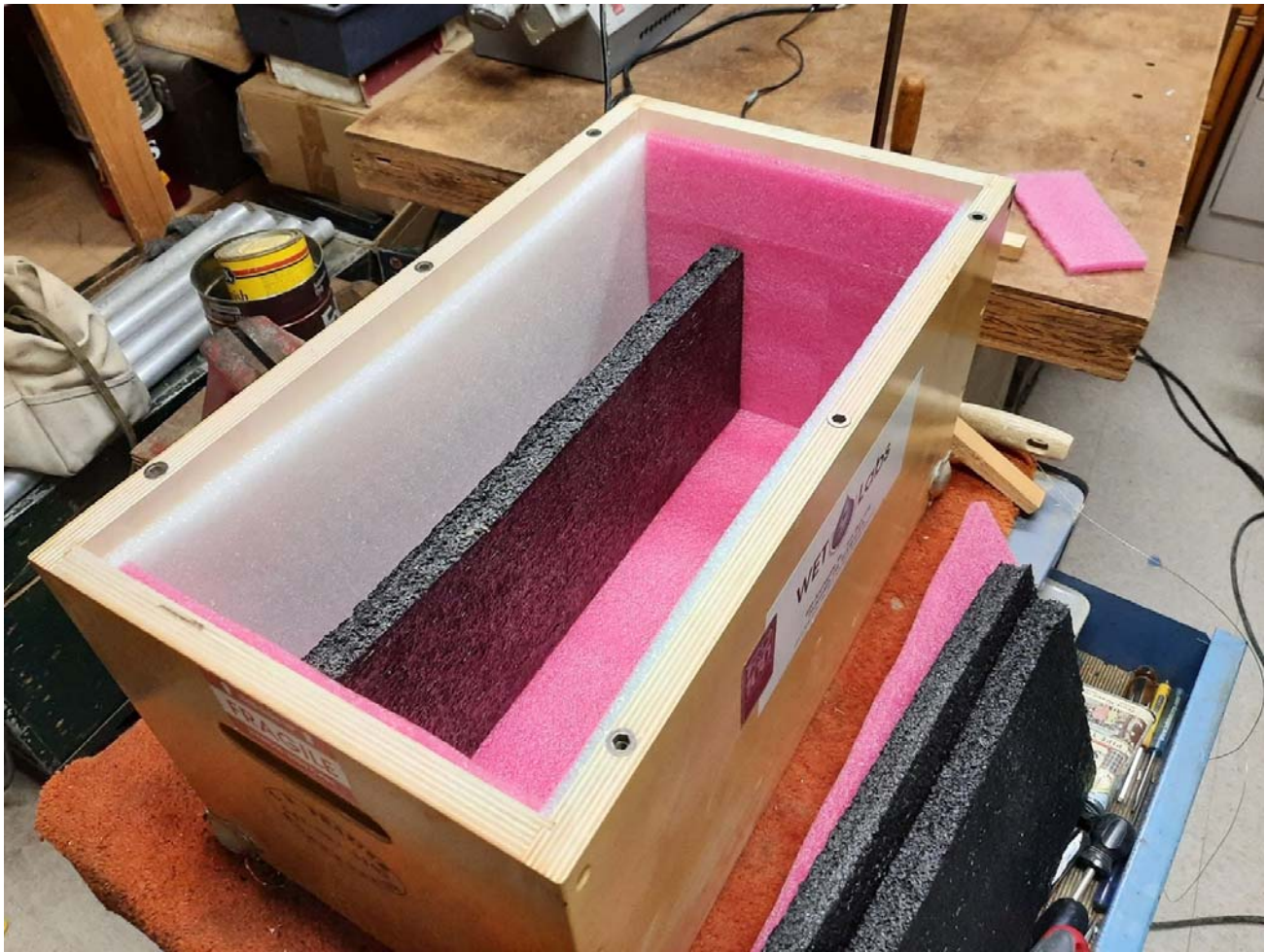
From the CSUCI uExpo. The go box, and lots of accessories scattered around on the table. Also had a separate case with smaller bits and bobs. Tiny bit of a chore to pack things away again at the end of the day.

November 2025



The go box when it came back from the CSUCI uExpo with all the stuff rattling around inside.

November 2025



The solution is this SECOND (real wood grain flavored plywood) box with all the extra bits in it. I have some nice white and pink foam to line the box, but all the rest of the foam I have is really thick, and not large enough in area.

Solution: slice it in thickness and then glue the bits to get larger sheets.

Slicing can be done with a hot wire, gluing is hot glue.



The first step was to dig out The Herniatron.

Got this like 40 years ago, I use it maybe once every few years.

It has an isolation transformer and a variac inside. Weighs like 60 pounds. Funny thing, the very lowest setting of like 5-10 volts AC was sufficient to melt the foam. Could have used a much smaller transformer or power supply.

The cutting bit I used was welding wire from a MIG welder that I have.

November 2025



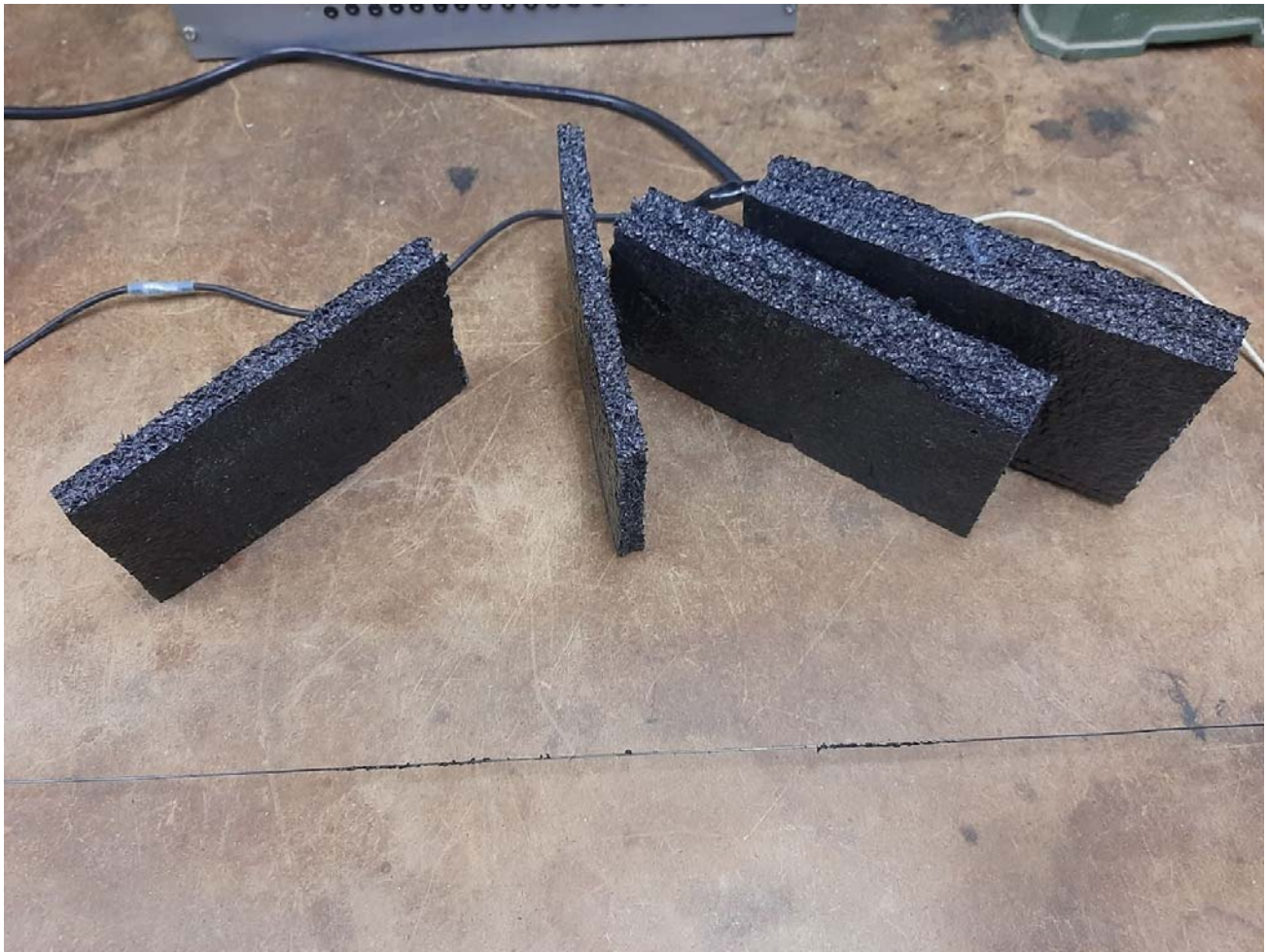
Had one bit of pink foam that was the right thickness. Set the wire that height, and got the first black block ready to slice. The wire was clamped to some wood blocks to get the right height.

November 2025



A line cord with exposed wires and jumper clips. Seems safe, yes?

November 2025



Success! The only problem was that the wire sagged from thermal expansion. Figured out how to push the foam just fast enough to keep the wire taught without burning the foam.

Next time will be to find a spring to provide tension on the hot wire during the cut.

November 2025



Cut everything I had down to about 3/8 inch thick.

November 2025



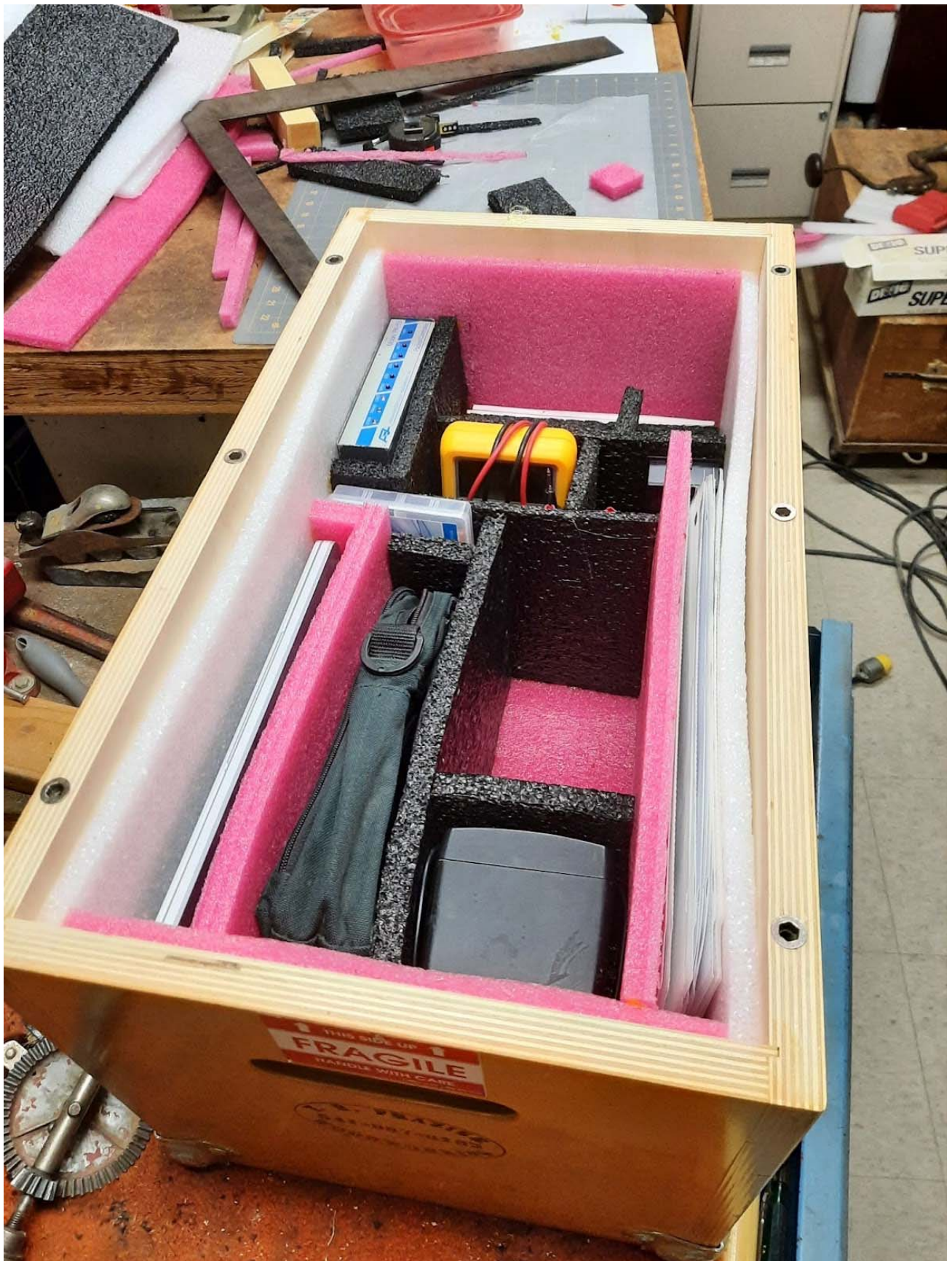
Started gluing things together with the gun on the right, and it just melted the foam. Found the old gun on the left that was much lower temperature, it was just right.

After a bit of careful planning (no, not really) and some exotic construction techniques, (hot glue) the completed box will keep all the stuff from banging around.

Tiny laptop, TNC, documents, voltmeter, small tools, extension speaker, radio manuals, fuses, coaxial adapter set, pens and pencils, note pad.

Not too sure what the last central opening is going to be used for. Headset? Two cans of beer? A handheld radio and spare batteries? Not too important right now, I have enough foam to tear it all apart and remake it as required for improvements. Just need to make a top foam cover to keep the stuff from banging into the top of the wood box.

November 2025



November 2025

Funny, I got an article from both Orv and Donne about the Simi North site.

Simi North Solar Installation Adventure by Donnie KJ6TTN

Punch list accomplished;

1. Added 2 yards of 3/4" gravel.
2. Cut posts to height and accounted for 30 degree angle.
3. Mounted array base.
4. Mounted 4 solar panels and torqued clamps to 17nM.
5. Measured for length of wire needed. 19' minimum plus length needed in the cabinet.
6. Cut an unnecessary galvanized pipe sticking out of the ground to improve for trip hazards around the site.
7. Installed a ground bonding clamp to the solar array.

Next "to do" punch list;

1. I will purchase wire needed for the conduit run.
2. Install electrical box on cabinet side for conduit to tie into, and through hole the box into the cabinet.
3. Install the solar charge controller.
4. Pull wired through the conduit.
5. Install solar breaker rated at the amps we decide on going with.
6. Connect all wiring from the charge controller to the panels.
7. Meter current at the panels then each breaker as we turn disconnects and breakers on.
8. Monitor the site for an hour during peak sun and then checking temperatures of wires/connectors and batteries.
9. Consider the 110v service entrance breaker to easily allow for future work without disconnecting at the residence.

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Here is Donnie and the Gang mounting the frame to the posts (previously installed), and then mounting the solar panels:



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Thanks to Donnie KJ6TTN, Brian KM6MIN, Frank KI6OQ, and DSW John Damico

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SimiNorth Radio Site Update by Orv W6BI

Work continues on the solar panel installation.

The frame for the solar panels, and the panels themselves have been mounted!

Work remaining:

- Finish running the conduit into the cabinet.
- Drag the wire through the conduit from the panels into the cabinet.
- Install the solar charger in the cabinet and wire up both ends.
- Install a switch between Edison power and an external generator, just in case everything else fails...
- Install a new battery.

Other projects:

We need room for the new 220 repeater, but the existing cabinet is full. We've located funding for a second cabinet and it's been received. A frame for the concrete base has been constructed and is in place at the site.

Then:

- Add rebar & pour the base.
- Punch holes for two 2" conduits in matching places in both cabinets.
- Mount a cable feedthrough on the side of the new cabinet (for coaxial cables/hardline)
- Mount an AC power strip in the new cabinet
- Shlep the cabinet up there and mount it.
- Run conduits between the two cabinets, for AC & DC power, and repeater control.
- Power up the cabinet's fans.
- Mount repeater and wire it to power, and the spare port in the ARCOM repeater controller.
- Install 220 antenna and run cable to repeater.

Piece of cake... With a lot of luck we'll have the new cabinet in place by late October or early November. Cabinet buildout including repeater, will follow

Then:

- Dave KM6FQ has donated a Rohn 45G tower for the project. It will probably replace the existing tower, as it's sturdier and can be a bit taller.
- Decide where to place the base
- Dig a big honkin' hole
- Frame it and put rebar in it.
- Place the base section plus rebar in the hole.
- Pour lots of concrete. Let it harden.
- Erect tower.
- Migrate antennas from old tower to new tower.
- Demo old tower.

This will be in the first half of 2026.

Huge thanks to all of those who have contributed so far to these ongoing projects: John WB6NXP, John NS6X, Frank KI6OQ, Dave KM6FX, Kerwyn N6YHX, Bill AB6BW, and most of all Donnie, KJ6TTN, who has spearheaded the projects and contributed time and money to them.

November 2025

Advance apologies to anyone whose name I might have omitted.

Orv W6BI

Low-Temp
Protection



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Internet Resources

simisettlers.org - us!

cvarc.org - Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club

k6mep.org - Ventura County Amateur Radio Club

vcars.org - Ventura County Amateur Radio Society

pvarc.club - The home of many of the counties repeaters

arednmesh.org - Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network

vccomm.org - Ventura County ACS / ARES

www.arrl.org - American Radio Relay League

archive.org/details/simi-settlers-arc - Our old newsletters!

qrz.com - forums, for sale, articles - **Create your profile here!**

eham.net - forums, for sale, articles (kind of a zombie site)

www.theborednet.net - a local bulletin board including net schedules and **stuff** for sale!

Under the **groups.io** banner (a free account is required):

groups.io/g/SimiSettlers/messages - A great place to post

groups.io/g/SIMI-VALLEY-HAMMESHNET/messages

vc-accs.groups.io/g/main/messages

vc-accs.groups.io/g/area-1/messages

SSARC Marketplace

This section of the newsletter is for Simi Settler club members to post various used or previously owned items for sale that they may no longer have a need or use of. Please submit a brief description of the sale items (along with a photo if possible) and suggested price to Eric Oberg KE6MLF, the newsletter editor, at least two days before newsletter publication. It is suggested that a portion of each sale be donated to the SSARC treasury to help support the club's several activities. The term "OBO" means "Or Best Offer" and serves only as a starting point in negotiating a fair price.

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LAFAYETTE RADIO MODEL TE-50 TUBE TESTER



This portable tube tester from Lafayette Radio is perfect for testing vacuum tubes from classic radios and television receivers sold back in the day. It has eight tube sockets capable of testing standard Octal, Loctal, 7-pin miniature, 9-pin miniature types as well as well as 9- and 12-pin Compactron tubes and nuvistor tubes that were popular back in the 1950's and 1960's. Tests include leakage, shorts and tube emission (e.g.- gain or μ -measurements). The tester includes a slide-out chart drawer plus supplemental charts for newer-type tubes listing the required selector switch and slide switch settings for each tube under test including a test clip for testing tubes with high-voltage anode top caps such as those used for horizontal sweep circuits of earlier televisions. Similar Lafayette Model TE-50 Tube Testers are listed on E-Bay for \$99.99 or more.

Condition: Very Good Price: \$5 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

From Glenn WA6GNB

GrandStream # 1620/1625 telephone for sale. New – still in the original box. Compatible with our MESH system. \$30.00 Contact Glen at gnb.2112@yahoo.com

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From Joe W6JWP

Anycubic Mega Pro 3D FDM Printer w/Laser Engraving

Upgraded flexible magnetic steel bed.

The power supply and extruder fans make noise when first turned on but it goes away after about 30 seconds.

Includes glass bed, tools, spare extruder and nozzles, laser head and protective glasses.

\$75.00 or best offer.



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Contact joe.w6jwp@gmail.com

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Ender 3 v1 3D FDM Printer

Modified for direct drive.

Upgraded flexible magnetic steel bed. Includes a spare textured steel bed.

Good basic machine

\$75.00 or best offer.



Contact joe.w6jwp@gmail.com

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Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club Web Page: <http://www.simisetters.org/index.htm>
 Simi Settlers' ARC Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SimiSettlersARC>
 Mail: P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, CA 93062-2125

Simi Settlers' Leadership				
President	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Vice President	Matt Kaufman	N3AR	(818) 425-0920	matt.d.kaufman@gmail.com
Secretary	Ron Nelson	K6RIN	(805) 797-6315	rnelson759@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Committee Chairpersons				
Webmaster	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	(805) 791-0745	ericoberg1@gmail.com
Membership	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745	kj6lxj@gmail.com
PIO	VACANT			
Raffle Prizes	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(805) 433-4513	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Youth Coordinator	VACANT			
Historian	Mike Tweedy	KV6I	(805) 231-9683	mtweedy@roadrunner.com
Net Coordinator	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Food Services	VACANT			
Room Coordinator	VACANT			
Elmers and Members at Large				
Past-President	Bill Woods	AB6BW	(818) 694-9019	AB6BW1@gmail.com
Advisor	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		ki6ksv@gmail.com
Advisor Morse Code	John Percival	WI6O		johnspercival1@gmail.com
Advisor Mesh	Orv Beach	W6BI		orv.beach@gmail.com

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Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, Ca 93062-2125 --- (www.simisettlers.org)

Membership Application



Type of Application:

New Member ☐ ☐
Renewal ☐ ☐

Type of Membership:

Individual (\$25/yr) ☐ ☐
Family (\$30/yr) ☐ ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ ☐ No ☐ ☐

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Alt. Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Additional Family Members:

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ ☐ No ☐ ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ ☐ No ☐ ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____
(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ ☐ No ☐ ☐

Badges requested: Yes ☐ ☐ No ☐ ☐ How many? _____ X \$18.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____

Shirt Printing: Yes ☐ ☐ No ☐ ☐ How many? _____ X \$25.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____ (Self Supplied Polo Shirt, no emblem or pocket)

Hats Requested: Yes ☐ ☐ No ☐ ☐ How many? _____ X \$20.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Application type: New ☐ ☐ Renewal ☐ ☐ Membership type: Individual ☐ ☐ Family ☐ ☐

Date Received: _____ Amount Received: _____ Database completed: _____

Badges and Shirts ordered: _____

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